3-31-08; 6:04PM;

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies

> SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

ASSISTANT REPUBLICAN WHIP



Washington Office: 428 Cannon Building Washington, DC 20515-4307 202.225.2571 FAX 202.225.4381

DISTRICT OFFICE: 10000 MEMORIAL DRIVE, SUITE 620 HOUSTON, TEXAS 77024-3490 713.682.8828 FAX: 713.680.8070

INTERNET: WWW.CULBERSON.HOUSE.GOV

March 15, 2008

The Honorable John Olver Subcommittee on Transportation and Housing and Urban Development Committee on Appropriations United States House of Representatives 2358A Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Joe Knollenberg Subcommittee on Transportation and Housing and Urban Development Committee on Appropriations United States House of Representatives 1016 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Olver and Ranking Member Knollenberg:

I am writing respectfully to request your support for the following projects in the FY2009 Transportation and Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill:

- 1. **Houston Galveston Area Council:** \$2,000,000 for the purchase of buses for an internal shuttle system for the Texas Medical Center, allowing employees and visitors to move more easily between the 46 different institutions in the Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration, Bus and bus facilities account.
- 2. **West Houston Airport:** \$150,000 to purchase an automatic weather observation system that would provide critical weather information to the 320 aircraft based at West Houston Airport as well as to transient pilots flying in from all over the United States in the Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration, Grants in aid account.
- 3. **Houston METRO**: \$1,000,000 for the Advanced Transit Program/METRO Solutions Bus Expansion for the purchase of hybrid buses to replace the aging fleet and to continue expansion of the Park & Ride system in the Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration, Bus and bus facilities account.
- 4. **Houston METRO:** \$10,000,000 for the Advanced Transit Program/METRO Solutions Phase 2 for light rail projects along the North and Southeast corridors only and to study commuter rail lines along the US 90A, US 290 and Westpark corridors in the Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration, New starts/fixed guideway account.

I am supportive of Congressman Gene Green's request for \$35,000,000 for the Texas Department of Transportation to build four direct connectors on the East loop of Beltway 8 in Houston,

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Texas in the Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Transportation and community and system preservation account.

I am also supportive of Congressman Nick Lampson's request for \$2,050,000 for Port Road, Harris County, expansion and improvements to eliminate the cargo congestion and facilitate the vehicle mobility demands at Bayport Terminal in the Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Transportation and community and system preservation account.

Should your office need any additional information, please contact Alicia Lee at 6-9175.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of my requests.

Sincerely,

John Culberson

Member of Congress